Use Week of:

Unit 13 • Session 3
Elijah and Elisha

BIBLE PASSAGE: 2 Kings 2

STORY POINT: There is one God.

KEY PASSAGE: Isaiah 42:8

CHRIST CONNECTION: The Holy Spirit helps us when we trust in Jesus.

Bible Story for Toddlers

Elijah was God's prophet, and Elisha was his helper. It was time for Elijah to go to heaven. Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I can do for you before I am taken away." Elisha said, "I want the same spirit that gives you power." Elijah said, "If you see me when I am taken away, you will have it. If you do not see me, then you will not." As they kept walking, a chariot of fire came down and separated them. Elisha saw Elijah taken to heaven in a whirlwind! Then Elisha put on Elijah's cloak and became the next prophet to Israel. God was with Elisha and gave him the spirit he had asked for.

Babies Gospel Gems

- Elisha was Elijah's helper.
- God took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind.
- God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah.

Additional resources are available at gospelproject.com.
For free training and session-by-session help, visit MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject.

BABIES Activities

Look in the Bible

Provide hand-size Bibles for babies to handle. Open your Bible to 2 Kings 2. Show the Bible story picture as you say the gospel gems in a soothing voice. Read the key passage card.

SAY • THERE IS ONE GOD. Elijah was His prophet, and Elisha was Elijah's helper. God took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind. Then God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah. [*Pray for the babies.*]

Sing a Bible story song

Sing to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell":

"There is just one God; He is the One we serve!
He sent His Son to rescue us; there is just one God!"

SAY • THERE IS ONE GOD. God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah. The Holy Spirit helps us when we trust in Jesus.

Play peekaboo

Place a baby in a highchair or on the floor facing you. Use a receiving blanket to hide your face; then lower the blanket and say peekaboo.

SAY • THERE IS ONE GOD. God took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind, and Elijah disappeared. God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah.

Pull scarves

Stuff an empty tissue box with red, yellow, and orange scarves. Line the tissue box hole with duct tape to prevent paper cuts. Lead babies to pull out the scarves one by one. Talk about how the scarves resemble fire. Talk about the Bible story.

SAY • THERE IS ONE GOD. Elijah told people God's words, and Elisha was Elijah's helper. God took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind. The chariot that came from heaven looked like fire.

Check diapers, serve bottles if needed, and release babies to parents according to your church's security guidelines. Give parents today's big picture card. Repeat the gospel gems and Bible-learning activities for babies who stay a second hour.

Circle time (5 minutes)

Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle. Say the Bible is God's words. Read the key passage card and guide toddlers to say it. Open your Bible to 2 Kings 2. Show the Bible story picture as you tell the Bible story. Say the story point and gospel gems. Pray for the toddlers.

Make chariot art

Print an extra copy of the Bible story picture for each toddler. Cut out the chariot and Elijah. Provide orange and yellow crepe paper streamers for toddlers to glue to the back of the chariot. Then glue the chariot and streamers to construction paper. Write the story point on each child's art and set it aside to dry.

SAY • **THERE IS ONE GOD.** God took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind. God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah.

Look for Elijah

Hide a person figure to represent Elijah in the room, and encourage children to look for him. Once a child finds Elijah, encourage him to hide it again for his friends to find. Retell the story.

SAY • Elisha was Elijah's helper. God took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind, and Elisha got to see it. God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah. **THERE IS ONE GOD.** The Holy Spirit helps us when we trust in Jesus.

Pull a chariot

Use a screwdriver to bore two holes in a cardboard box. Thread a rope and knot it to secure the reins. Invite a child to pull the box with people figures in it.

SAY • **THERE IS ONE GOD.** God took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind. Elisha was Elijah's helper and watched him go up to heaven in a chariot.

Reveal the message

Write the story point on paper for each child with blue crayon. Direct toddlers to color over it with a red crayon. Cover the page with red cellophane to reveal the message. Retell the story.

SAY • **THERE IS ONE GOD.** God took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind.

BONUS Teaching Hour

SESSION TITLE: Elijah and Elisha

BIBLE PASSAGE: 2 Kings 2

KEY PASSAGE: Isaiah 42:8

STORY POINT: There is one God.

CHRIST CONNECTION: The Holy Spirit helps us when we trust in Jesus.

Transition activity: Make wheel art

Write each child's name on the back of heavyweight paper. Place the paper faceup in a shirt box. Squirt a few drops of paint on the paper and place a toy car in the box. Place the lid on the box. Invite toddlers to rock the box back and forth to make the car move. Set aside the art to dry. Talk about the story.

SAY • Elisha was Elijah's helper. It was time for Elijah to go to heaven. **THERE IS ONE GOD.** God sent a chariot and took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind. The wheels on our car made a picture in the box. When you see your art, remember that God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah. The Holy Spirit helps us when we trust in Jesus.

Freeze dance

Play music and allow children to move and dance around the room. Pause the music and tell children to freeze in place. When you count to three, say the story point with the children; then play the music again. Repeat as time allows.

SAY • **THERE IS ONE GOD.** God took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind. God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah.

Work puzzles

Cut an extra copy of the Bible story picture into four pieces. Encourage children to put the puzzle together. Point to the picture and retell the story.

SAY • **THERE IS ONE GOD.** God took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind.

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release toddlers to parents according to your church's security procedures. Give parents today's big picture card to reinforce today's Bible story, Christ Connection, story point, or gospel gems throughout the week.